

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 1, 2001

LB 542

look into something like this and see where we're at and see whether that this would be an opportunity to save some dollars that would go to roads. So, again, I'm going to support Coordsen's amendment now and, like Senator Baker says, if they run short we could have a deficit bill next year on it maybe and get it straightened out. But I think that it's a good opportunity to look into it and just see where we're at on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Coordsen, recognized to close.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, as long...long as the Legislature here gathered is not confused about what I'm asking, I do not believe that we should not take care of state-owned property. My concern is that we do that in a way that the expenditures have at least a relationship to the money saved. It well may be that if we take a look over the interim at the storage needs of the Department of Roads that we may find that, if a decision is reached to use a commercial grade steel storage building, for this amount of money we might be able to house all of the major pieces of equipment that need to be housed of the state Department of Roads. I'm not opposed to that. But what I think we do need to examine today is, in fact, whether or not these expenditures are necessary when measured by the value that will be received from that. All of life is a balancing act and I'm not proposing to make a judgment call on office additions, electrical upgrades, shops, new yards and offices, salt storage buildings, or all of those other things that are provided for in Program 901. But what I am proposing to do, that we re-look at the equipment storage facilities and give the Appropriations Committee the chance during the interim and early in the next session, when we look at deficit appropriations, to make a good analysis of what is needed, what are the expenditures. If the expenditures that are needed on balance are those that are requested you won't find me objecting to that next year, but on this case we've come to the time when we need to take a look at expenditures, not only here but all over the state of Nebraska. You'll be hearing me make a little conversation later this evening that will be about it on the same theme; that there's a balancing act coming for us, I'm afraid, of getting our state revenues in tune with the expenses,